CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE. THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE. (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. Army personnel are given instruction in chemical warfare in short concentrated courses comprising about 15 lectures of 45 minutes each. A course is made up of one introductory lecture, about ten lectures on anti-gas warfare, and four or five lectures on smoke bombs. Serving as instructors for these lectures are young chemical engineers who are prepared for these jobs during their college training. These instructors are not regular Army officers, but discharge these duties during their yearly reserve call-up, lasting between one and two months. For this reason they are not generally very much trusted by their superiors; beyond the elementary information on chemical warfare required for carrying out their duties as instructors, they are not entrusted with any further information concerning chemical warfare. As a result these instructors generally do not know any more about chemical warfare than does the private soldier who has passed the course of 15 lectures. 25X1

2. The first part of the course, about ten lectures, is concerned with poisonous warfare materials (Voynie Otravyane Veshchestva - VOV). This is divided into eight lectures on lasting poisonous materials (Stoykie Otravyane Veshchestva - SOV) and two lectures on non-lasting poisonous materials (Nestoykie Ostravyane Veshchevstva - NOV). In the first group of lectures the following are treated, all three used in liquid form: Yperite (mustard), Lewisite, and Adamsite. In the second group the following gases are mentioned: Phosgene ($COCL_2$), Chlorine (CL_2) and Bromobenzene (C_6H_5Br) (tear gas). Nothing is given on gases attacking the nervous system.

3. The standard gas mask in the Bulgarian Army is the Soviet-made Shlem Maske 11, issued to each soldier. In the canvas bag holding the mask is a small container with paraffin for cleaning the eye-glasses. The filter is painted green and the head-piece is made of green rubber enclosing the whole head of the wearer. The corrugated rubber tube connecting filter and head-piece is either grey or black. The gas masks are of a new type developed in 1950 or 1951.

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4. A chemical warfare section, existing presumably only at Polk level, comprises about five men, equipped with black rubber suits of one or two pieces (overalls), high canvas boots, and rubber gloves. This section is supposed to move in front of the unit to which it belongs, check the ground for poisonous materials, and render them harmless if necessary. To check a suspected area the chemical warfare section is equipped with a small glass instrument and a large number of small phials of seven different (unknown) chemicals, representing the different poisonous gases. A sample of the suspected air or soil is placed into the instrument and in turn each of the seven different phials is broken in the instrument. If the color inside the glass tube changes, the presence of suspected gas is proved.

5. For decontamination the following chemicals are used: Carbon Tetrachloride ($C Cl_4$), Sodium Hypochlorite (Na O Cl), $Na S_2$ (probably $Na_2 S$), and Tetrachlorethylene ($C Cl_2 : C Cl_2$). These chemicals, which are supplied either in liquid or in powder form, are carried by the chemical warfare section on a truck together with a hand-operated sprinkler. The section carries no fire-fighting equipment or clothing.

6. Gas alarm is given by a number of short interrupted high sounds of a siren. In every unit of the Bulgarian Army there is a gas exercise for one hour weekly, usually at a fixed time. During this hour gas masks must be worn no matter what duties must be performed at the time.

7. The following two types of flame-throwers are in use in the Bulgarian Army:

   a. FOG2, carried and operated by one soldier, maximum range 50 meters, filled with gasoline.

   b. FOG6, static flame-thrower, operated by two men, maximum range 150 meters, consisting of a drum containing about 40 gallons of gasoline and dug into the ground.

8. Only three types of smoke bombs are known, all yielding white smoke and all ignited by rubbing the attached match head on a matchbox or by putting a light to it. There are as follows:

   a. RDG (Ruchnaya Dimnaya Granata), made of brown cardboard in cylinder form about 2.5 inches in diameter and 12 inches in length. It burns for about eight minutes. At the middle of the cylinder a strip of paper is attached showing the letters RDG.

   b. DM11, a disc about 10 inches in diameter and four inches in height, to be placed on the ground. It has small openings along the edge of one plain surface where the smoke escapes; it burns for about ten minutes.

   c. B.D.SH. (Bolshaya Dimnaya Shashka), a drum about two feet high with openings around the edges and a larger opening with a removable cover in the center. A lit match must be dropped into the central opening in order to ignite the bomb; it burns for about 30 minutes.

9. Informant believes that Factory No. 12, in 9 September Street, in Sofia, produces smoke bombs.